

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 11 were previously presented in the application. By this Amendment, Claim 1 is currently amended, new Claim 12 has been added and Claims 2-6 and 11 remain unchanged.

The Claims stand rejected under the cited prior art of record. Specifically, Claims 1-4, 6 and 11 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,186,096 ("Areaux"). Claims 1-4, 6 and 11 were also rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Areaux in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,138,716 ("Truitt"). It is also noted that while the Office Action Summary indicates that Claims 1-6 and 11 are rejected, that the text of the Office Action only addresses Claims 1-4, 6 and 11. For purposes of filing this Response, it will be assumed that Claim 5 has also been rejected as obvious either in light of Areaux alone, or in the combination with Truitt.

As now amended, Claim 1 recites a motorized kitchen appliance. The kitchen appliance includes a housing having a cylindrical outer wall with at least two recesses formed in the cylindrical outer wall, and with each recess defining an opening. A drive unit has a motor disposed within the housing and has at least two projections corresponding to said openings and matching a shape of said openings, projecting outwardly from said drive unit and through the openings in a direction perpendicular to the axis of the drive unit. The projections engage the openings to securely mount the drive unit within the housing.

New dependent Claim 12 further recites that the drive unit comprises of an electric motor mounted along a central vertical axis of the appliance. The electric motor includes a drive shaft connected to a reduction gear for being driven by the drive shaft. The reduction gear has the projections as part thereof and extending perpendicularly from the central vertical axis of the appliance.

It is respectfully urged that the invention as now recited in the Claims is not anticipated by or obvious from the cited references, as will become more clearly evident from the following detailed discussion of these references, presented herein for the Examiner's kind consideration.

U.S. PATENT NUMBER 4,186,096 TO AREAUX ET AL.

Areaux discloses a centrifuge for separating lubricating liquid from lubrication-impregnated metal chips. A drive shaft is coupled to a substantially bell-shaped centrifugal separator bowl. An elastic mounting arrangement is provided for mounting the motor. The drive shaft extends in a substantially vertical direction and permits the motor to vibrate transverse to its axis.

As illustrated in Fig. 2 of Areaux, a flange 14 is secured to the lower end of the motor 12. A second flange 15 abuts against the flange 14 coaxially arranged with respect thereto, and fixed thereto in any convenient manner and carrying connected thereto a downwardly projecting central stud shaft surrounded by a plurality of rubber rings 17. The rubber rings 17 are housed in a socket mounted in the base 18 of the centrifuge 10. The rubber rings 17 can be compressed by means of a clamping flange screwed into the upper end of the socket in which the rubber rings are housed (column 3, lines 3-17).

As may be appreciated by the Examiner, this has nothing to do with the claimed arrangement of having two recesses formed in a cylindrical outer wall with each recess defining an opening in combination with a drive unit having a motor disposed within the housing. Claim 1 further calls for having at least two projections corresponding to the openings and matching a shape of the openings projecting outwardly from the drive unit through the openings. This arrangement is recited as being in a direction perpendicular to the axis of the drive unit, with the projections engaging the openings to securely mount a drive unit within this housing. Such a claimed structure is not shown or obvious from Areaux.

In fact, all that Areaux shows is an extended and downwardly projecting central stud shaft which is surrounded by rubber rings which are held in place by means of a clamping flange screwed vertically into the upper end of the socket in which the rubber rings are housed. This is the only element holding the motor in the housing. Further, the Areaux system is clearly an arrangement completely different from Applicants' claimed invention and bears no resemblance thereto. Further, Areaux merely relates to a separator bowl for lubrication-impregnated metal chips having nothing to do with a motorized kitchen appliance as described in Applicants' specification, and recited in the Claims.

In this regard, it is also noted that new Claim 12 further recites additional features in greater detail further providing that a motor includes a drive shaft connected to a reduction gear for being driven by the drive shaft. The reduction gear has the projections as part thereof and extending perpendicular from the vertical axis of the appliance. These features are clearly not shown or obvious from Areaux and thus, this Claim is also clearly patentable over the art of reference.

U.S. PATENT NUMBER 2,138,716 TO TRUITT

Truitt discloses a bread crumbing machine. The bread crumbing machine includes a frame having a bracket attached to a horizontal base plate. The base of a motor is secured to the bracket in what appears to be nothing more than a conventional screw and nut arrangement, although the elements are not described. In this context, this has nothing to do with the claimed drive unit having at least two projections matching the shape of openings to fit into recesses formed in a cylindrical outer wall of a housing from a drive unit of a motorized kitchen appliance. Further complicating the arrangement of Truitt, and making it quite different from Applicants' claimed invention, is that the lower end of the shaft of the motor is also supported on a ball bearing 21 forming a thrust bearing, and resting on a special bearing plate 22 supported on the horizontal plate 18. As such, it is clear that Tuitt fails to add anything to the teachings of Areaux, and provides a much more complicated arrangement than that of the claimed invention, which

itself provides a simple and secure manner of holding a drive unit within a housing for a motorized kitchen appliance.

Therefore, Applicants' respectfully request allowance of independent Claim 1. Claims 2-6, 11 and 12 depend from Claim 1 and should be allowed for the same reasons, and also because they recite additional patentable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of Claims 1-6, 11 and 12 are respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned. If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Respectfully submitted,



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December 12, 2007

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